

SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 44/Number 15 December 2014



Season's Greetings

Administration Message

Dear Fellow Residents:

As you read this, the Holiday Season is upon us in full glory. Last month, we celebrated Thanksgiving and reflected, in our souls, upon those people and blessings in our lives for which we are most grateful. Now as Christmas and the New Year approach, we are busy celebrating with family and friends and trying to show with gifts, presents, and deeds our appreciation that they are a part of our lives. We marvel at the joy and excitement in young children's eyes as they perceive the signs that Santa is coming. We feel the warmth of happiness in concert with our elders as they experience again the wonders of the Season. For all of its hustle and bustle, the Holiday Season can be a time for reflection and renewal. Let us reflect on the blessings that we have received this past year as residents of Indian Head Park and renew our commitment to our families, our friends, and each other to make Indian Head Park the best it can be!

2014 Village Achievements

Among the many things for which all of us should be grateful some of the more notable include the appointment of **John Brooks** as our new Police Chief and Village Administrator upon the retirement of Frank Alonzo. He is making his mark as the very capable and conscientious person I knew him to be in improving the operation of the Village. We are also thankful for the Road Bond Referendum and our legislators and Village Attorney **Richard Ramello** of Storino, Ramello, and Durkin who went to bat for us in helping resolve the notice problem so that we could move forward with the Road Improvement Program this year. Kudos to our engineers **Dave Vandervelde** and **Kelly Knowles** of Christopher B. Burke Engineering for their work in shepherding this project from start to finish and for their friendly and prompt responsiveness to our residents' concerns. As you know the VBT also approved the replacement of two segments of water mains along Cascade and Pontiac in conjunction with the street program as well. One very noteworthy highlight was the cooperation of the Administration and the Acacia Association in facilitating the paving of their parking areas at Acacia's expense during the Road Improvement Program. This was a win-win for all of us.

Road Improvement Program Update

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a chart that shows the work done so far pursuant to our Road Improvement Program. The chart shows the name of the street, the work planned by the Village leading up to the road bond referendum, and the actual work performed by Central Blacktop. As you can see, our engineers saw that the prices were good allowing us to upgrade a number of streets relative to the work done. For example, Indian Head Trail and Briarwood Court were planned for crackfill only but were upgraded to mill & overlay. Vine Street and 65th Street reconstruction were postponed at this time at a savings in excess of \$90,000. The blank spaces on the chart in the Central Blacktop column indicate work that was not a part of the construction contract and is yet to be performed. Crack fill/seal will be handled by separate contract and performed next Spring. There is money in the road bond for this purpose.

New Year Challenges

As we move into 2015, the Village is prepared to face the many challenges the New Year will present. Among the several matters that we will devote our attention to include (not in order of importance) water meter replacement, finishing the Road Program, updating our Village Infrastructure Plan and determining the future of the Heritage Center in light of the advisory referendum. We have an opportunity to obtain a low interest loan through the State of Illinois through Governor's Clean Water Initiative that could facilitate the replacement of water meters on the Village Water System (those on the La-Grange Highlands system would not be included) with state of the art meters that provide savings in village manpower and resources and will provide residents with new interface capabilities such as remote monitoring when on vacation (is that faucet still running and can I shut it off?). Our Infrastructure Plan will be updated to reflect short and long term needs and items prioritized. The VBT will begin work to determine the future of the Heritage Center in light of the majority advisory referendum vote to sell it (985 to 613).

continued on page 2

Message continued from page 1

On behalf of our residents and VBT, I want to thank the following individuals for their selfless time and work on behalf of all of us: Fire and Police Commissioners: **Tom Anselmo, Chairman Tom Reynolds**, and **Mario Stefanini**; Planning and Zoning Commissioners: **Diane Andrews, Noreen Costelloe, Tim Kyzivat, Earl O'Malley, Chairman Dennis Schermerhorn, Bob Tantillo**, and **Jack Yelnick**; Finance Committee: **Terry Coleman** and **Tom Hawrysz**. I also extend our thanks and appreciation to our Village Prosecutor **Tom Brescia** and Village Treasurer **Steve Busa** for their professionalism and hard work on our behalf.

Please remember our Nation's sons and daughters in the Armed Forces who will of necessity be away from home this year! Ask that they be blessed with peace and safety and be returned home to us before the New Year is out! And, a

great big THANK YOU to our veterans for their service to our country!

So, as we enjoy the Holiday Season, on behalf of the Village Board of Trustees and the Village Administration, I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May Peace and Joy fill your entire Holiday Season! May the spirit of Christmas touch us all and enrich our community so that we can proclaim, in the words of Charles Dickens,

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year!" (A Christmas Carol).

Thanking you again for the privilege of allowing me to serve as your mayor, I remain

Sincerely,
Richard S. Andrews

Aging Care Connections

Programs and Services

The programs and social services offered by Aging Care Connections are provided to adults age 60 and older and their family members. Programs and services are designed to provide options for care to seniors in order to enhance their ability to remain as independent as possible in their own communities. Aging Care Connections employs professionally-trained staff who can assess the needs of older adults facing a change in health or functional ability on an individual basis. A case manager can offer information, assistance and referral to in-home services designed to address the needs identified. Programs and services can also provide support and assistance to family members caring for older adults. Caregivers can receive valuable information on a wide range of programs, services, support and resources currently available.

Municipal Code Reference – Display of Street Number

(Section 8.40 of the Municipal Code)

Residents, please be aware that the Village Code requires the proper display of home addresses that are clearly visible from the roadway. The purpose this ordinance was approved several years ago was to provide emergency service agencies (such as the Indian Head Park Police Department and Pleasantview Fire Protection District) the ability to find your residence should they be called to your home and need to find your location. The display of your address helps them to find your home more easily. For single family residences, the size of the street numbers shall be no less than four inches in height and the color of the letters should be different from the contrast background of the residence. Multi-family occupant dwellings containing two or more units the numbers should be placed on the front and rear of the buildings.

Smoke Signals
(708) 246-3137

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Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525
(708) 246-3080
www.indianheadpark-il.gov

Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and
Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor: Richard S. Andrews

Trustees: Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnauffer
Tom Hinshaw Matthew P. Walsh II
Brenda O'Laughlin Amy Jo Wittenberg

Village Clerk: Joseph V. Consolo

**Chief of Police/
Administrator:**

John Brooks

Police Dept. Non-Emergency 246-4534
Emergency 9-1-1

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency 352-9229
Emergency 9-1-1

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in *Smoke Signals* are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

Road Improvement Program

STREET	BOND PLAN	COMPLETED UNDER CENTRAL BLACKTOP'S CONTRACT
65th Place	Mill & Overlay	Mill & Overlay 2"
65th Street	Reconstruct	Major Patching
70th Place	Crackfill	
72nd Street	Crackfill	
Acacia Circle	Crackfill	
Acacia Drive	Crack Seal	
Acacia Lane	Crackfill & Minor Patching	Minor Patching
Algonquin Drive	Crackfill	
Apache	Mill & Overlay	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Arrowhead Court	Crackfill & Minor Patch	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Arrowhead Trail	Mill & Overlay	Variable HMA Removal, Overlay 4.25", & Storm Sewer Installation
Ashbrook Lane	Thick Mill & Overlay 3"	Variable HMA Removal & Overlay 3.75"
Big Bear Drive	Mill & Overlay	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Blackhawk Trail	Crackfill- Minor Patching	Minor Patching
Briarwood Court	Crackfill & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Briarwood Lane & Square	Mill & Overlay & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Buttonwood Court	Mill & Overlay 2" & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Cascade Drive	Thick Mill & Overlay	Variable HMA Removal & Overlay 5.25"
Cascade Drive	Crackseal & Overlay 2"	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Cherokee Drive	Mill & Overlay	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Cherrywood Court	Crackfill & Patch & Curb	Minor Patching & Curb Work
Cochise Drive	Crackfill & Minor Patching	
Deercrest Lane	Thick Mill & Overlay 3" + Curb	Variable HMA Removal & Overlay 3.75"
Eastern Avenue	Reconstruct and Drain	
Edgebrook Court	Crackfill	Minor Patching
Edgebrook Lane	Mill & Overlay 3"	Variable HMA Removal & Overlay 3.75"
Elmwood Court	Crackfill & Patch & Curb & Drain	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Elmwood Drive	Crackfill & Curb & Drive	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Elmwood Square	Crackfill & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Flagg Creek Drive	Crackfill	
Frontage Road	Crackfill	
Frontage Road	Minor Crackfill	
Glenbrook Court	Crackfill	Minor Patching
Glenbrook Lane	Mill & Overlay 3"	Variable HMA Removal & Overlay 3.75"

Road Improvement Program *(continued)*

STREET	BOND PLAN	COMPLETED UNDER CENTRAL BLACKTOP'S CONTRACT
Hawthorne Square	Crackfill & Patch & Curb & Drain	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Heatherwood Court	Crackseal & Drainage & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Hiawatha Lane	Crackfill	
Howard Avenue	Crack Fill & Ditch Line	
Indian Head Trail	Crack Fill & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Indian Head Trail Court	Crackfill	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Indian Wood Lane	Crackfill	
Indian Woods Drive	Crackfill	
Keokuk	Thick Mill & Overlay & Ditch	Variable HMA Removal, Overlay 3.75"
Laurel Avenue	Crackseal- Misc Patching + Ditch Line	
Mohawk Court	Crackfill	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Nacona Lane	Crackfill & Minor Patch	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Osceola Trail	Crackfill	
Pembroke Drive	Mill & Overlay 3" & Curb	HMA Removal 5" & Overlay
Pontiac Drive	Crackseal & Overlay 2"	Mill & Overlay 2"
Potawatomie Trail	Crackfill	
Sauk Trail	Crackfill	
Sequoya Lane	Crackfill	
Shabbona Lane	Minor Crackfill	
Shawnee Trail	Crackfill	
Sioux Trail	Crackfill	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Stonehearth Lane & Square	Crackseal & Overlay 2" + Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Stratford Court	Crackfill & Drain	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Sweetwood Court	Crackfill & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Tanglewood Court	Crackfill & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Tecumseh Lane	Crackseal & Overlay 2"	Mill & Overlay 2"
Tecumseh Lane	Crackfill	
Thunderbird Drive	Mill & Overlay	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Timber Ridge Court	Minor Crackfill	
Vine Street	Reconstruct	
Wabansee Lane	Crackfill	
Westwood Court	Crackfill & Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Westwood Drive	Crackfill & Curb & Drain	Mill & Overlay 2.25"
Westwood Square	Crackfill & Major Curb	Mill & Overlay 2.25"

Chief's Corner

The Indian Head Park Police Department would like to inform our residents about recent residential burglaries that have been occurring in several nearby communities. According to many municipalities most if not all residential burglaries are occurring during the day. Entry is usually accomplished by one or more offenders knocking at the front door and then gaining entry in the rear or side doors. Items usually removed include coin collections, jewelry, credit cards, cash and firearms etc.

In addition, don't be a victim of a "home diversion residential burglary". This scam usually occurs during the spring, summer and fall when residents are working outside. Most individuals working in their yard do not lock their doors to their homes. One individual will approach the victim and occupy his/her attention while an accomplice enters the home and searches for valuables, usually jewelry. Another home scam involves an individual asking for a drink of water or wishes to use the bathroom or needs to use a telephone.

NEVER LET ANYONE IN YOUR HOME WHO TRIES TO GAIN ENTRANCE USING ANY OF THE AFOREMENTIONED DIVERSIONS. Should this happen please dial 9-1-1 immediately!

Some fundamental things to keep in mind regarding home security:

- Keep all doors, sliding glass doors and windows locked at all times.
- Consider an alarm system. Contact several alarm companies as they are a viable option.
- Use timer lights when not at home.
- If away for a vacation or long weekend contact the U.S. Post Office, local newspapers or have a trusted neighbor get your mail daily.
- Request for a vacation watch from the police department.
- If away for vacation, consider having a trusted neighbor park their vehicles on your driveway and rotate them during your trip.
- Purchase good locks for your residence.
- Place Neighborhood Watch decals on windows or on doors.
- Use motion detection lights in front, side and rear of your home and garage.
- Don't leave valuable jewelry on dressers or in jewelry boxes that are visible. Consider purchasing a safe, and bolted to the floor for expensive items including ALL firearms.
- Don't leave extra key in mailbox, flowerpot or under door mat by front door.

During Holiday Season while shopping consider these suggestions:

- Keep all vehicle doors and windows locked even during short periods of time.
- Keep valuables out of vehicles such as: iPads, iPods, cash, checkbook, credit cards, Laptops, iPhones, Garmin GPS, wallets, cellular phones, and smart phones.
- Use and activate your alarm system on your vehicle.

- Store purchases in your trunk instead of the back-seat.
- Although sometimes difficult to do in a crowded parking lot, consider moving your car to a different place if you return to store purchases in your trunk and continue shopping. Thieves may be watching to see who does this and target your auto.
- Park in a well-lit area and be observant of your surroundings.
- Lastly, NEVER release personal identifying information such as SSN, DOB, financial information or credit card information to unknown individuals/companies soliciting on-line products. This occurs frequently during holiday season via Internet though on-line purchasing.

Stop by the police department for Neighborhood Watch Security pamphlets and Inventory Sheets which will record your personal property to include: make, model and serial numbers of electronic/expensive items in residence. These inventory sheets can also be used to document credit card numbers in case of a theft. Keep the inventory sheets in a safe location such as a safety deposit box or a safe.

Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday!

Chief John Brooks

TRADING POST

Wilshire Green 3 BDRM, 2 BA, 1st Floor Condo for rent. \$1,750. Gary 312-806-9915

ProSelect . . . bag & cart, orig. \$500 asking \$100; Dressmaker ladies golf scaling down-Designer fabrics at great prices!; clubs Garage space for car storage, \$80/mo. Jean 708-246-6635.

Three piece . . Orig. \$1895 – Estate sale price \$1200 for armoire survivors' college fund. Noel 312-953-7111.

Advertisement

Selling or Buying a Home?
*Call for a FREE No obligation
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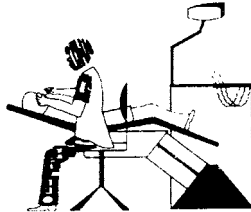
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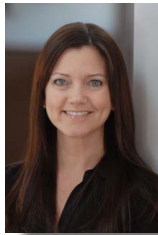
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